IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

10/618,602

Confirmation No. : 5343

First Named Inventor

Naoki MATSUMOTO

Filed

July 15, 2003

TC/A.U.

1763

Examiner

Luz L. Alejandro

Docket No.

101249.52602US

Customer No. -

23911

Title

Plasma Processing Apparatus

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R § § 1.97 AND 1.98

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attached Form PTO-1449 lists documents which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

## I. Time Period of Submission

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

1) no later than three months from the application's filing date
or 2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is
later) or 3) before a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued
Examination, and therefore no statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under
37 C.F.R.§ 1.17(p) is required.
31 C.r.n.g 1.11(p) is required.
2) after the later of three months from the application's filing
date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a
Final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action closing prosecution (Ex
parte Quayle), (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing
concurrently herewith:

$\boxtimes$	a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); or
	a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

after either a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith:

a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); and

a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

II.	Statement	Under	37 C.F.R.	§ 1.97(e)

I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or
I hereby state that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or
III. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)
I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
IV. Submission of Non-English Language Documents
The following is a concise explanation of relevance of the non- English language documents listed in the attached Form PTO-1449:
The relevance of document(s) to the subject matter of the present invention is/are provided in the specification of the above-identified application.
Corresponding foreign or international report(s) citing document(s), together with an English-language version(s) (if not already in English) of that portion of the report(s) indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office(s) is/are submitted.
English language family member publication(s) of

## Serial No. 10/618,602 Attorney Docket No. 101249.52602US

AA-A	English language abstract(s) is/are submitted for document(s) -AC						
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s	Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			С	omplete if Known
				Application Number	10/618,602
I	NFORMATION DISC	LOS	SURE	Filing Date	July 15, 2003
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				First Named Inventor	Naoki MATSUMOTO
				Art Unit	1763
(Use as many sheets as necessary)				Examiner Name	Luz L. Alejandro
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	101249.52602US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials'	Cite No.1	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
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		FOREI	<u>GN PATENT DOC</u>	UMENTS	
Examiner Initials'	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	JP 2000-355771	12-26-2000	Canon KK	Abstract
	AB	WO 01/88221	11-22-2001	ANELVA CORP (JP)	Abstract; Equivalent to US 2004/0020432
-	AC	JP 8277472	10-22-1996	Canon KK	Abstract

Examiner	Date	
Signature	 Considered	 

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO			Complete if Known			
			Application Number	10/618,602		
EORMATION DI	SCI 09	LIPE	Filing Date	July 15, 2003		
			First Named Inventor	Naoki MATSUMOTO		
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(Use as many sheets as	s necessary	)	Examiner Name	Luz L. Alejandro		
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		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	3		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volur country where published.	when appropria me-issue numb	ate), title of the item (book, per(s), publisher, city and/or	T²
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. D	raw line through citation if not in conformance and not
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.